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Spectators watch racers in Sunday's Reston Town Center Grand Prix bike races speed past on Market Street. The event drew 376 racers from across Virginia and beyond.

Racing through Reston Town Center

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Morton's of
Reston Raises
Funds for Hungry

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Charity's Giveaway
Gets Rushed

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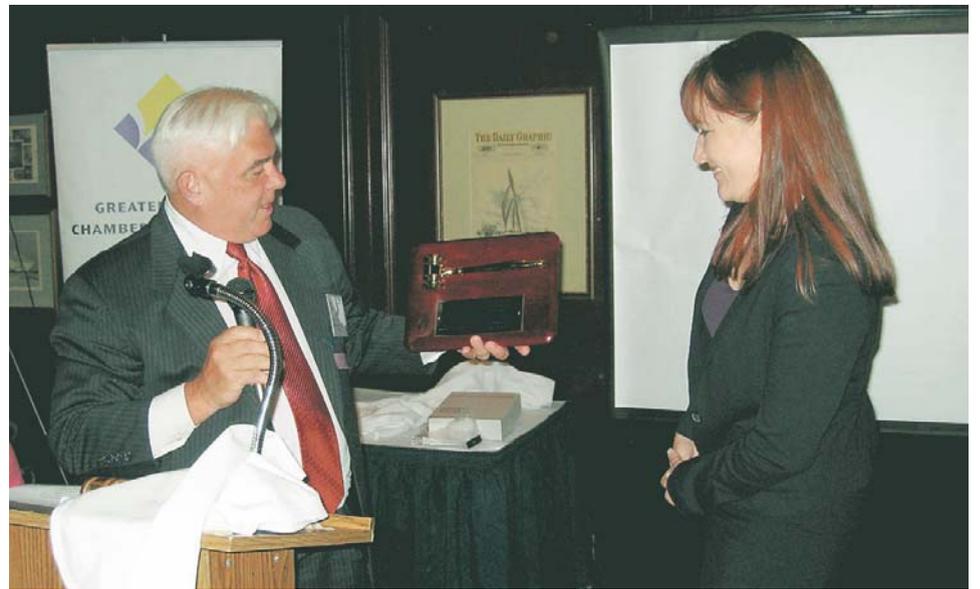
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NEWS



Del. Ken Plum (D-36) swears in the chamber's new board members.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Incoming chamber Chairman Matt Brennan and outgoing Chairwoman Jen Sterling.

Chamber Welcomes New Leadership

New officers sworn in, awards for excellence conferred.

Mark Ingrao is no stranger to chamber of commerce leadership. The new president of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, announced at the organization's awards luncheon last Thursday, June 25, is a past chairman of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

He has also chaired Leadership Arlington and has been involved in Community Residence Inc., the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance, the Arlington Free Clinic, the Virginia Public Access Project and CrisisLink. Ingrao also sits on the Fairfax Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board and the advisory board to James Marshall Bank.

"We've been without a president for six months, so this is a big deal that we've hired a new president," chamber spokeswoman Kate Meier said after the event. Past President Penny Pompei left early this year.

The chamber also announced Matt



Sterling poses with Member of the Year Andy Kalin, Senior Vice President of Access National Bank.



Outgoing chair of the chamber Jen Sterling presents Patrick Clezie of Miller Musmar with the Employee of the Year award.

Brennan of Brennan & Waite P.L.C. as the chairman for the coming year. Brennan is a partner in the Oakton-based law firm. He has served in multiple leadership roles in both the Reston chamber and the Vienna-Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce. The Reston chamber named him Member of the Year in 2002, and he has served on the organization's Public Policy Committee, the Taste of the Town committee and the Ethics Day program. Brennan replaces Jen Sterling, president of Hinge, who has been

the chair for the last year.

New board members include Scott Rowland of Fidelity Investments, Jane Raymond of Hospital Corporation of America, Dennis Acker of OpenAir Technologies, Michael Ferraro of Training Solutions Inc., J. Michael Landrum of Northrop Grumman, Karen Cleveland of Habitat for Humanity and Kerrie Wilson of Reston Interfaith.

Five Awards for Chamber Excellence (ACE) were given at the luncheon. Donald

Shandler of Marymount University was named Committee Chair of the Year, and the Member of the Year award went to Andy Kalin of Access National Bank. New Member of the year was Scott Rowland of Fidelity Investments, and Employee of the Year was Patrick Clezie of Miller Musmar. Travis Good, chairman of the board for the chamber's INC.spire program, was named Rookie of the Year.

— MIKE DICICCO

Newcomers and Neighbors Club Donates to Local Shelter

The Greater Reston Newcomers and Neighbors Club celebrated the end of the 40th Anniversary year on May 21 at Trump Country Club. Reston Chorale's Candlelight Singers entertained the group with songs from the era of the club's founding followed by installation of the new Board Members. The celebration concluded with a donation to Reston's Embry Rucker Shelter. GRNCC is a non-profit social club open to all women in Reston and adjacent areas. The Club meets the third Thursday of the month at St. John Neumann

Church in Reston. Those interested in having fun and joining GRNCC activity groups, should go to www.restonnewcomers.org or call 703.437.6866 for information.

CONTRIBUTED
Janice Shea and Sandra MacDougall, outgoing president of GRNCC for 2008-09.





CONTRIBUTED

Reston-Herndon AAUW Celebrates 40th Anniversary

The Reston-Herndon Area Branch of the American Association of University Women celebrated its 40th anniversary at a picnic June 11 at the home of branch member Carol Van Evera. Branch presidents who attended the picnic included standing, from left, Bea Malone, Irene Schiffman, Karin Formoso, Fran Lovaas, Gail Osberg, Marypat Sampson and Ollie Parrott; and, seated, Carol Ward, Judi Keillor Ornoff, President Carol Hurlburt and Marilyn Silvey.

Fireworks, Fun at Lake Fairfax

Lake Fairfax Park will be the one and only site for fireworks presented by the Fairfax County Park Authority on Independence Day. Fireworks, which usually take place at Lee District Park in Franconia, will no longer be offered there due to safety concerns and construction work on athletic fields.

At Lake Fairfax Park in Reston the fun begins at 7 a.m. Visitors can picnic in the park, or purchase tickets for The Water Mine Swimm' Hole, open 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Vendors will offer a variety of food for purchase throughout the celebration, and children will find a moon bounce, dunk tank and an obstacle course to amuse them. Fireworks begin at approximately 9:15 p.m. Celebrants are encouraged to come early as parking is limited.

Lake Fairfax Park is located at 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive in Reston.

Two Injured in Bike Path Fight

An argument escalated into a physical altercation between two groups of young adults on a bike path in the 11900 block of Winterthur Lane. Two Reston men, 29 and 32, were medevaced to Inova Fairfax Hospital with initially life-threatening injuries. They are no longer life-threatening. Detectives are investigating the possibility that this case involved members or associates of a criminal street gang. The suspects were described as black, in their 20s. They were all approximately 6 feet tall and 180 pounds wearing white T-shirts and dark jeans. Gang prevention, intervention and suppression continue to be a coordinated priority in Fairfax County. For more information about gangs you can visit:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gangprevention/aboutgangs.htm>

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Arrest in Officer Assault

Police arrested a man for assault on a police officer on Monday, June 22. Officers were called to the 1500 block of Northgate Square around 1:27 a.m. for a noise complaint. As they attempted to talk to the man, he was not cooperative and allegedly assaulted one of the officers. The officers struggled with the suspect and were able to take him into custody. A 20-year-old male of the 1500 block of Northgate Square in Reston was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged with felony assault on a police officer, resisting arrest and noise violation. The suspect received minor injuries during the struggle and was treated at the jail.

NEWS

Charity's Giveaway Gets Rushed

Nation Children Inc.'s stock of food, children's items wiped out in a few hours.

By the time volunteers from Nation Children Inc. opened the doors of the community center at Lake Anne for the nonprofit organization's summer giveaway, 150 people were already lined up to get in, said Esther Afia Armah, the group's executive programs director. "It was a rush."

Anyone in need could show up for free food, children's clothing, books and toys, although many had been referred by social services. The Friday, June 26 event was scheduled to run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., but the food was gone by about 1 p.m., and at 3 p.m., volunteers were folding up tables and preparing to leave.

"Everything is finished. That means there are people in the community needing help," Armah said. She said people had come not only from Reston but also from Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun County and even Washington, D.C.

Nation Children started in Baltimore and has its Northern Virginia office in Herndon. The organization conducts two major giveaways each year, one before Thanksgiving and one in early summer, in order to provide seasonally appropriate clothing. Armah said the event was especially helpful to people waiting to get on food stamps, which takes about a month.

She said organizers would like to offer more giveaways but lack the resources to do so. "We don't get as much support as we would wish," she said. Nation Children takes donations and receives food from the food bank, but its five directors pay many of its expenses out-of-pocket.

A professional artist, Armah helped to found the organization in 2001, when she lived in Baltimore, as an arts program for poor children with special needs. She soon decided she wanted to help the children's families to care for them and got some friends on board to help fund charity efforts. In 2003, she moved to Reston, and she opened the office in Herndon three years ago.

The organization hosts art programs at the Lake Anne Community Center from spring through



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Friday's charity outreach event, like all Nation Children efforts, was staged by volunteers. From left, standing, are Swathi Mogili of Reston, Joyce Boateng of Herndon, Vivian Nguyen of Aldie and Melisa Melendez of Herndon. Seated is Nation Children director Esther Afia Armah of Reston.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Among the foodstuffs given away at the event were 30 boxes of fresh vegetables.

Get Help or Help Out

To contact Nation Children, call 866-533-6629 or 703-463-9698. More information, as well as a volunteer form, is available on the Web site www.nationchildren.org. The office is located at 603 Carlisle Drive, Herndon.

fall, "and it's free for every child that wants to do it," Armah said. "We're coming out with one program that allows children to sell their artwork and keep the money." That program will begin in November and will also be run out of the community center. "We're very grateful to RCC [Reston Community Center] because they don't charge us anything for using their premises," Armah said.

The Herndon office also provides some emergency food and clothing year-round, outside of the semi-annual events.

In response to the recession, Nation Children has also started a program that connects laid-off domestic workers to customers who need housework or yard work done. The service is free, although any customer who wants the organization to conduct a background check on a potential employee will have to pay for it.

On Aug. 29, the group will stage the Just Walk fund raiser in Reston, which will raise money for the Embury Rucker Community Shelter.

— MIKE DICICCO

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

Reading Pays at Reston Library

Children of all ages read to receive prizes.

By ABIGAIL ALBRIGHT
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Public Library Summer Reading Program, "Read Around the World," kicked off at all 23 branches on June 18.

"The Summer Reading Program is open to all kids in not only Fairfax County, but to any kids who can visit," said Dorota Jakubooska, the youth services manager for the Reston Regional Library. "They can just have fun reading, they have the joy of reading all books. We have prizes when they finish reading 15 books, this summer they receive a book of coupons."

Jennifer Ingersoll of Reston has three children participating in the program, ages 3, 5 and 7.

"It's a great program for the summer, it gets the kids really excited continuing learning," Ingersoll said. "The fact that they



PHOTO BY ABIGAIL ALBRIGHT
THE CONNECTION

Teachers with the Maryland Science Center demonstrate an explosion on Monday, June 29.

get to write them down really inspires them to finish the 15 books. Now that they're out of school for the summer it's nice for them to have a goal, a learning goal."

THE YOUNGER CHILDREN who can't read on their own yet

can have the books read to them, or listen to them on CD or tape.

"I think my 7-year old is enjoying it the most, now that he can read by himself, because it's more of an accomplishment when he finishes his 15 books," Ingersoll said. "Although my 5-year old really wants me to read them to her, quickly."

Children enjoy the program just as much as the parents, but maybe for different reasons. Ingersoll said her children are competing about who can finish the most books first, an educational sibling rivalry.

"The Summer Reading Program encourages kids to read during the summer when they have lots of free time and they are still reading like they would in school," said Sofia Caballero, 10. "It's really fun."

Sofia and her brother, Samuel Caballero, 12, volunteer at the Reston Regional Library for the Summer Reading Program.

"The volunteers that help us for the Summer Reading Program are so helpful," Jakubooska said. "They're in charge of registering kids for the Summer Reading Program, and answering questions."

SEE LIBRARY, PAGE 11

VIEWPOINTS

What's your favorite book right now?



Annie Ingersoll, 5: 'Under'



Jonathan Canfield, 11: 'Star of Kanzan'



Sofia Caballero, 10: 'Pictures of Hollis Woods'



Samuel Caballero, 12: 'Scorpia'



Jennifer Canfield, 6: 'All of the Dr. Seuss books.'

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OPINION

No Money Fairfax County to receive on \$250,000 for secondary road construction.

Between declining revenue because of the recession and the Virginia Supreme Court striking down the one significant transportation funding plan to come out of Richmond in the last decade, virtually all transportation projects in the state will now cease to exist.

There will be no money for intersection improvements, for widening roads, for bus lines, for filling potholes. No money for transit. Just no money.

If a project is currently under construction, or construction is about to be, it will continue. Otherwise there is no money in the pipeline.

This is a different kind of "no money" than the low-dollar budget that we have coped with in the past. A large jurisdiction like Fairfax County will see only about \$250,000 this year for secondary road construction, down to about a tenth of previous years.

In fact, Metrorail construction bringing rail through Tysons and out to Dulles Airport and the HOT-lanes construction underway on the Beltway are the only two major projects likely in the foreseeable future. Some federal money, some local money and increases on the Dulles toll road will pay for rail to Dulles construction. Federal money will also pay for improvements on the Fairfax County Parkway.

As for HOT-lanes, we suspect that many drivers stuck in traffic in the future will be surprised to discover that they can ride in newly added lanes for a steep toll of as much as \$1 a mile or more (\$14 or more for the trip from the American Legion Bridge to the Springfield

interchange), and that the private company in this public-private partnership will get to keep 100 percent of that toll money to finance the construction.

We are suffering from election fatigue too, and aren't ready to start in on the fact that every seat in the Virginia House of Delegates is on the ballot this November, along with statewide races for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, plus some special elections and ballot issues.

But these races matter, and every voter should stand ready to make candidates talk

Expertise for Annual Community Guides

What would someone new to your town need to know? What interesting, almost secret, places would you like to have learned about earlier when you moved in?

We invite you to share the expertise you've gained in living in your hometown with your neighbors and with people new to the area in our Newcomers and Community Guides, coming later this summer.

Connection staff members and interns are already working on the Connection's annual Newcomers and Community Guides, which will publish between the end of July and the beginning of August.

We invite citizens, businesses and organizations to send us suggestions. We invite calendar listings for major events for the upcoming year, information on how to get involved in nonprofits and charities, details about your club or other organization.

about real solutions to real problems, including funding for real transportation spending, dedicated funding for Metro and congestion relief. Likely every candidate will talk about Virginia's ranking as the top state for business. But it's hard to argue that Virginia is open for business if it's economic engine, Northern Virginia, can't solve a single congestion chokepoint or add a busline to bring riders to new Metro stations.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

When are the major festivals, celebrations and other events at your church or temple or mosque?

We also invite readers to contribute directly to the newcomers and community guides. Send us a short letter: what do you love about your community? Tell us about one special place you've discovered. Does your family have different favorites in different seasons? How did you get involved in your town? Share your favorite park. Tell us about your favorite annual event.

Helping pets adapt to new surroundings can be a big part of any family's move. Share tips you have for acclimating a pet to a new home. Do you have a favorite dog park?

Send your comments and submissions to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com, or mail to Kemal Kurspahic, Connection Newspapers, 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Secret of Success

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

"There's something deeply wrong with Tysons Corner," according to a June 11, 2009, article in Time magazine. "For starters, Virginia's bustling commercial district — the 12th biggest employment center in the nation — has more parking spaces than jobs or residents." In fact, about 120,000 people work in Tysons Corner while only 17,000 live there. The result is that about 110,000 cars come and leave daily as there are few mass transit options. Add to that number the shoppers at Tysons Corner Center, the ninth-largest indoor mall in the nation, and it is surprising that traffic moves as well as it does.

As fashionable as the office park concept that Tysons Corner represents may have been in the 1960s, it simply does not work today. It will make even less sense with the arrival of Metrorail in several years. Recommendations of the

Tysons Corner Task Force if implemented would update the area using transit oriented development concepts to a modern, workable city.

In contrast to the office park design of present-day Tysons Corner, the Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor of Arlington County has redeveloped itself into a national model of transit oriented development. Arlington County has actually increased its job base and grown its population while reducing the number of automobiles on its streets. Metro has been the secret of success of the community along with leadership of vision that made the best possible use of mass transit. At the same time, most of Arlington County has maintained its community of neighborhoods of single-family homes.

Also in contrast to Tysons Corner Center is Reston Town Center that is being copied by others throughout the country. Combin-



ing mixed-use development with walkable streets and easy access, Town Center is attracting those who prefer a more urban style of living. Adding an additional dimension to Town Center will be the arrival of Metrorail in about a half-dozen years. The challenge of distance from Town Center to the Metro station that will be in the center of the access road will require some innovative thinking that might include air-rights development over the access/toll roads. The same challenge is being faced by Fairfax County and the developers looking at proposals for the Wiehle Avenue station development.

Tysons Corner has had to play catch-up to become a more livable area. Reston Town Center and Wiehle Avenue can build on the experiences of the Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor to be a model also for transit oriented development.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote Needed On Rec Center

To the Editor:

In her letter to the Connection ["No Plans for Rec Center," Reston Connection, June 10-16], Robin Smyers claimed that the Board thought there was a "real and valid question" about whether or not a referendum would be needed in order to move forward with an indoor rec center. I translate this to mean that the Board knows their grandiose scheme for a new rec center is not broadly popular, and they are feverishly searching for ways to shove this down our throats whether we like it or not. The Board should not need to consult the governing documents to know that a major decision that profoundly affects the future of Reston and that entails the expenditure of vast sums should be put to a vote. The Reston Association exists for the benefit of its members; how are the members supposed to decide whether or not a

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THE CONNECTION

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1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns,
Call: 703-917-6444
Fax: 703-917-0991
e-mail:
reston@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ♦ 703-917-6428
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Justin Fanizzi
Editorial Assistant
703-917-6437
jfanizzi@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike DiCicco
Community Reporter
703-917-6448
mdicicco@connectionnewspapers.com

Julia O'Donoghue
Education & Politics
703-917-6433
jodonoghue@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore
Courts & Projects ♦ 703-917-6417
kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com

Rich Sanders
Sports Editor ♦ 703-917-6439
richsand8@aol.com

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Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-917-6416
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editors
Michael O'Connell, Kemal Kurspahic

Photography:
Robbie Hammer, Louise Krafft, Craig Sterbutzel

Art/Design:
Zohra Aslami, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, John Heinly, John Smith, Stu Moll, Wayne Shipp

Production Manager:
Jean Card

CIRCULATION: 703-917-6480
Circulation Manager:
Linda Pecquex
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS, L.L.C.
Peter Labovitz
President/CEO

Mary Kimm
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer
703-917-6416
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon
Executive Vice President
703-917-6404
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller

Debbie Funk
National Sales, 703-518-4631
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

OPINION

Enjoy Our Reston Community Center

BY JOHN LOVAAS
CIVIC LEADER AND RESTON
IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST



Two weeks ago, this column expressed concern that if we in Reston do not take seriously the preparation of our new Master Plan, we run the risk of becoming the “congested nightmare” that Tysons Corner is today or the even worse nightmare that is coming. Fairfax County plans to triple the density of Tysons to transform it into a lovely “pedestrian-friendly community.” Yet, they cannot assure that “150 or so” private landowners would actually follow an ideal plan to make that happen even if the county had one. But, the current chairman of the Board of Supervisors says it won’t happen overnight, so not to worry: “This transformation will happen over 30, 40, 50 years.” [Time Magazine-June 23]

I think I’ll take my chances and stay here in Reston. One good reason to do so is the enjoyment and personal enrichment available at

INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

the Reston Community Center. Fran and I have long been regulars at RCC’s terrific theater productions. Just a few weeks ago, we were treated to a two-night special, the incomparable Mandy Patinkin one night and his talented wife Kathryn Grody the other. Our daughter Jenni had wonderful experience in RCC’s Young Actors Theatre summer camps while growing up here. But, only recently did we begin to take advantage of some of the quality classes at the Community Center. Fran just completed her second painting (watercolors) class at the Center and is making great progress which she attributes to a terrific teacher. Don’t tell her, but I think she may also have a bit of natural talent. She is not only getting quality instruction, but paid only \$20 for the last course, a seniors program of seven sessions. Non-residents pay twice that.

Meanwhile, I’m taking my second Memoir Writing course. I, too, am most impressed with my instructor. When I began the first course, it was sort of a lark. I’ve had this vague notion that there may be a book lurking somewhere inside, but I doubted I had the self-discipline to actually do it and certainly had no thought of writing a memoir. Now I’m certain that I can write at least a memoir. I have been inspired to get in gear and do some actual writing. For the two courses of 10 sessions each, I’ve paid a total of \$70 (\$140 for a non-resident). I’m convinced that these courses — and scores more for all ages in the RCC Program Guide — are incredible bargains both financially and psychologically.

If you and your family haven’t made use of the Center’s facilities at Lake Anne and Hunters Woods, you are really missing something. The summer is a great time to try out the fabulous indoor pool, the woodworking and pottery shops, the cornucopia of fun and fulfilling courses, travel, and five-star performances at the Center Stage. You, in fact, are shareholders in RCC. Come and enjoy it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

rec center benefits them without a referendum?

Next, Smyers apparently wants us to believe that we must build the rec center in order to avoid being an aging, static community that “does not change to meet the needs of its citizens.” Thus far, nobody has established that we “need” an enormous new rec center, or that we need to destroy Brown’s Chapel Park to build it, or that Reston alone should pay for something that non-Reston residents will get to use. What I want from the Board is a clear plan and the opportunity to vote on it, not a bunch of drivel about our supposed legacy to the future.

James Perry
Reston

Increasingly Concerned About Rec Center

To the Editor:

Like a growing number of increasingly concerned Restonians and as a South Lakes resident, I have followed the ongoing flood of revelations and comments

about the extraordinary proposal to build a huge recreation center at Brown’s Chapel.

I believe that the project would be unnecessarily destructive of trees, parkland and the environment in general. It would be unfair financially to the residents of Reston. It would also ride roughshod over Restonians’ joint private property rights. Basically, it offers few benefits to our community at all.

Fairfax County would clearly be the big winner were the project to go through. What’s not to like? Free land worth tens of millions to build on, free construction costs and free operating costs. All this, courtesy of Small District Five. Another set of winners would be the developers involved, but I won’t go there.

Accepting the above, an outside observer would imagine that the local residents’ association, recognizing the lunacy of the project, would immediately look to defend or at least consider their members’ interests, finances and environment. Instead, the Board of the Reston Association has apparently rolled on its collective back in delight at the opportunity to hand over our property, cripple our finances and ravage our parkland. Indeed, so excited were they at the prospect, that they went ahead

and spent some \$100,000 of our money on designs, plans and preparations for the project essentially without telling anyone.

Is this what Reston Association is meant to stand for? Secretive, judgmental and exclusionary as they appear to be, I think that all Board Members should seriously reconsider their attitude and how they take decisions. Although I am against the present proposal, I am not suggesting that all Restonians should adopt nimbyism as their credo. Far from it. I am sure that most residents would be open to considering a number of fairer, more sensible alternatives. But what we don’t want is a signed, sealed and delivered package whose agenda has been fixed from the start.

John Hanley
Reston

No Means No on Rec Center Plan

To the Editor:

When news of a Walmart-sized county recreation center leaked out to the public in early May, the RA and RCC boards immediately

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10

PERILS OF THE LOST JUNGLE
MINIATURE GOLF
HERNDON, VIRGINIA

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Jim Stevens and Frank Sturgeon, both of Oakton, enjoy some wine, Morton's canapés and the chance to meet a Morton's co-founder.



Bartender Gerard Roncal mixes up a special cocktail for Morton's regular, Jeff Sessions, of Reston.

Morton's of Reston Raises Funds for Hungry

Cookbook release party merges fun and a good cause.

BY DONNA MANZ THE CONNECTION **FOOD & DRINK**

Morton's The Steakhouse has its loyal following, particularly noticeable when the chain hosts special events. When one of those special events also raises money for an important cause, such as ending hunger in America, the dual-fold purpose heightens the fun. The cookbook release party hosted at the Reston Morton's The Steakhouse on June 24 raised \$1,500 in its silent auction on behalf of Feeding America, a national umbrella organization.

"This whole atmosphere ... it's not a dinner, but a social event."

— Jeff Sessions

THE STAR DRAW at the cookbook release party was Morton's The Steakhouse co-founder and chef Klaus Fritsch, who was in from Chicago for the book release party. "What I really like about these events is that the food is not on the normal menu, the drinks are not the normal drinks, either," said Jeff Sessions, describing himself as the unofficial "mayor of Reston." "To mingle with Klaus, I like that a lot. This whole atmosphere ... it's not a dinner, but a social event." For Sessions, Morton's is "home." He goes to all the Morton's events, including most of the restaurant's wine tours to Virginia wineries. The staff is "great" and the food "always fantastic," he said. Jim Stevens of Oakton comes often to Morton's, as well. "For a Morton's aficionado, this is an outstanding event," said Stevens. "You meet the owner, the co-founder and chef, and you get to sample fine wine

and delicious hors d'oeuvres prepared by Morton's." A member of the Vienna-area Hill Road Thyme gourmet club, Stevens showed up with fellow gourmet club member, Frank Sturgeon, also of Oakton. They sampled the appetizers offered by waiters, drank some Chateau Ste. Michelle wine, and Sturgeon had a copy of the cookbook signed by Fritsch. "We didn't realize how many fans there are who wanted the recipes from Morton's," said Linda Roth of Linda Roth Associates, the public relations firm handling Washington, DC, Morton's media relations.

FRITSCH, who calls himself "head busboy," created the recipes in his home kitchen in Chicago, a kitchen he is eager to describe: huge and well-equipped. "When we came up with the idea for Morton's in Chicago, there were only two steakhouses then," said Fritsch. "We wanted the best and biggest steaks, prepared simply, so the quality of the steak would come out. We are proudest that our quality is consistent." The chain's meats are shipped from Chicago to its restaurants around the world.

Fritsch mingled with guests, talked about his passions — food, his second home in Siesta Key in Florida with its garden — and signed copies of "Morton's The Cookbook: 100 Steakhouse Recipes for Every Kitchen." It complements the first cookbook and adds recipes for Morton's contemporary cocktails.

The Morton's Chef's Dinner for six went for the high bid of \$1,000. Morton's partners with the Capital Area Food Bank for the local restaurants' events.

To find Morton's special events in Northern Virginia, including wine receptions and tours, go to http://mortonsofreston.com/special_events.php. A final cigar dinner, to be celebrated before Virginia's new anti-smoking ordinance goes into effect, is planned for one of the Northern Virginia restaurants.

Celebrate July 4th in Swingin' Style

Celebrate Independence Day in swingin' style with the Upper East Side Big Band. This 18-piece orchestra will perform at Reston Town Center on Saturday, July 4, from 7:30-10 p.m. as part of the Reston Concerts on the Town series. This series, which takes place at the Reston Town Center Pavilion every Saturday night from June 6 through Aug. 29, rain or shine, is free to the public thanks to the sponsorship of the Reston Town Center Association and Fidelity Investments.

Upper East Side Big Band [<http://www.myspace.com/uppereastsidebigband>] will put the audience in the holiday spirit with a funky mix of swing, big band jazz and jump blues. Their repertoire ranges from the big band sounds of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller to the jazz standards of Cole Porter and Billie Holiday. The band will feature a male and female vocalist, including vocalist/pianist Adrian Duke who will croon popu-



Upper East Side Big Band will perform at Reston Town Center on Saturday, July 4, from 7:30-10 p.m.

lar standards from the Frank Sinatra and Ray Charles songbook. This July 4th, swing on over to Reston Town Center, and don't forget to bring dancing shoes. Reston Concerts on the Town features talented local and national acts from across the country every Saturday night. This year's line-up incorporates a diverse array of mu-

sic including swing, jazz, Latin dance, bluegrass, New Orleans funk and gospel; Afro-funk, Motown, and Doo-wop. Music lovers of all ages are invited to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and picnics to the concerts. For more information about this series, call the concert hotline 703-912-4062. For more information, visit www.restontowncenter.com.

CALENDAR

Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6437. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1
Hurricanes and Our Changing Coasts. Dr. Asbury (Abby) Sallenger will explain how the coast changes during extreme storms such as Hurricanes Isabel, Katrina, and Ike, and what this means for coastal developments. The US Geological Survey Science in Action public lecture series the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Dallas Peck Auditorium, on the first floor of the USGS Building, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive in Reston. 703-648-4748.
Herndon Book Club. 6:30 p.m. at the Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Book Discussion Group. Land of the Living by Nicci French. Adults. 703-437-8855.

THURSDAY/JULY 2
Peter McCory One-Man Band. 11 a.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.
Swingin' Swamis Hip Retro R&B. 7 p.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.

Open Mic for Bands Night. 9 p.m. at Jimmy's Tavern, 697 Spring St., Old Town Herndon (on the Corner of Elden and Spring Streets). Bands will receive 30 minutes to play, and must pre-sign with Andre' Love at soulcraftmusic@yahoo.com or 703-984-9114. Walk-ins will only be accepted if time permits. All types of music welcomed. 703-435-5467.

Farmers' Market at Reston Town Center Pavilion. 3:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Discover locally grown fruits and vegetables, locally raised meats and poultry, and local foods from bread and cheese to salsa and sausage. 703-689-4699.
Literary Heroines Book Discussion. 11 a.m. Oakton

Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Explore the role of female characters in Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy. Adults. 703-242-4020.

SATURDAY/JULY 4
Fireworks, Fun at Lake Fairfax. At Lake Fairfax Park in Reston the fun begins at 7 a.m. Visitors can picnic in the park, or purchase tickets for The Water Mine Swimm' Hole, open 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Vendors will offer a variety of food for purchase throughout the celebration, and children will find a moon bounce, dunk tank and an obstacle course to amuse them. Fireworks begin at approximately 9:15 p.m. Celebrants are encouraged to come early as parking is limited. Lake Fairfax Park is located at 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive in Reston.
Feel the Wag Old Time Stringband. 11:30 a.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.

MONDAY/JULY 6
Monday Flicks. 11 a.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Bring a snack and enjoy a children's book on DVD. Call branch for titles. Age 3-5 w/adult. 703-757-8560.

TUESDAY/JULY 7
Surprise! 11 a.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 8
English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for non-native speakers. Adults. 703-242-4020.
Financial Discussion Group. 3 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Informal discussion of books on the economy, finance and investing with an emphasis on current economic and financial situations. Adults. 703-242-4020.

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SCHOOL NOTES

Sara Anne Schlegel of Reston, a sophomore majoring in biology in the College of Science, was one of 127 Hokie Ambassadors who volunteered for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at Virginia Tech during the 2008-09 academic year.

Louis Marquet of Reston was one of nine Spanish majors from the College of the Holy Cross class of 2009 to be named North American Language and Culture Assistants by the Spanish government to teach English in primary, middle and high schools throughout Spain.

Jennifer Dawn O'Neil of Reston graduated with a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from McDaniel College.

Christopher Grill of Reston, a recent graduate from Virginia Tech's Architecture and Urban Studies with a degree in Industrial Design, has been awarded selection to "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." "Who's Who Among Students" is a national award that recognizes the outstanding campus leaders of the year.

Jason Aaron Harte of Reston earned Bachelor of Science from Excelsior College in Albany, N.Y.

Kevin L. Moore, Michael Chirila, Tracy L. Tato and Zeb Barcus of Reston were named to Marymount University's Delta Epsilon Sigma National Honor Society. To be eligible, undergraduates must have completed 75 percent of their requirements with at least a 3.5 grade point average.

Michael Cavalieri, Leslie

Fishpaw and Christopher Tjoumas of Reston were honored at Virginia Tech's fall Graduate Commencement ceremony Dec. 15.

Twenty-five **Armstrong Elementary students** recently traveled to the Hyatt Regency Reston where they spent the day shadowing Hyatt employees on the job. The students rode the Hyatt shuttle to the hotel then attended a staff meeting with the hotel's general manager. Students were able to shadow employees including the director of sales, rooms executive, front office and reservations agents, PBX operator, housekeeper, bell person, door person, concierge, chefs, director of food and beverage, and restaurant manager. °

Summer Marie Thomas of Reston and was named to Episcopal High School's academic honor roll, for the third quarter of the 2008-09 school year. Thomas, a freshman, is the daughter of Ms. Tracy P. Thomas.

Aline Beaumont of South Lakes High School was named a Gold Award winner at the national level in the National Scholastic Art Awards.

Lake Anne Elementary was recognized as an official Certified Wildlife Habitat site by the National Wildlife Federation. In order to become certified, a property must provide the four basic elements that all wildlife needs—food, water, cover, and places to raise young—and must use sustainable gardening practices. The habitat at Lake Anne consists of a pollinator garden including a pond; a sponge garden, which is a natural way of filtering water; native plant species; and bird feeders.



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COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Hunters Wood/Dogwood District
hosted by Cheryl Beamer, RA Secretary & District Representative
Monday, June 22, 2009, 7-9 p.m.
Hunters Woods Elementary School cafeteria
2401 Colts Neck Road, Reston

North Point District
hosted by Frank Lynch, District Representative
Tuesday, June 30, 2009, 7-9 p.m.
Armstrong Elementary School cafeteria
11900 Lake Newport Road, Reston

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 7

scheduled four district meetings to "listen" to the residents of Reston. The first district meeting was last week and the final meeting will conclude on July 21.

Ironically, the RA/RCC joint task force has new plans for a Recreation Center "Lite" at Brown's Chapel Park. As a result, if you don't like \$100 million, how about \$85 million for the "Lite" plan? The new plan is complete while the "listening" tour is just beginning.

In the new plan, the RA/RCC task omits the tennis courts while they throw in a lighted baseball field. But the result is the same, the destruction of Brown's Chapel Park. It is amazing how the leadership of RA and RCC can come up with a second alternative to destroy Brown's Chapel Park while they are still in the middle of their "listening" tour.

There are several board members within RA and RCC that are truly concerned and want to listen to the people, but they are left out of the inner circle. The board leadership of RA and RCC make up the RA/RCC joint taskforce. It appears to many that they spoon feed other board members limited

information while they patronize the residents of Reston with a "listening" tour. Transparency is lacking within the RA and RCC boards.

At last week's RA board meeting, director Joe Leighton made a formal motion to prohibit the conveyance of Brown's Chapel Park to Fairfax County. The RA board leadership tried to shut down Joe by stating his motion was not on the agenda. Joe stood his ground and held to his motion and asked for second support. While Joe's motion received second support, the board voted 6 to 1 to table the motion until the July 23 board meeting. The reason the board gave for tabling the motion is the district meetings have not been completed. Yet the RA/RCC Taskforce already have their compromise plan in place, the "Lite" version.

RCC wants to construct a county recreation center at Brown's Chapel Park. RA members own the land. The RA board will ask its members for the conveyance of Brown's Chapel Park to Fairfax County.

For every 100 Reston residents who are opposed to the county facility on Reston land there may be one who is in favor, until they learn that the facility will be paid

for solely by Reston. The residents want RA to take care of their existing facilities, upgrade them where necessary to include indoor tennis or swimming. They also want their park land off the table for destruction.

Not a Walmart or a Walmart "Lite" plan at Brown's Chapel Park. We hope the board will listen. No means No!

Rick Beyer

Co-Chair Save Brown's Chapel

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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U.S. Rep. Moran Hosts Teleconference

Restonians seized the opportunity to ask questions about national issues.

BY ANNA MCCORMALLY
THE CONNECTION



U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8)

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), who represents Reston in Congress, hosted a telephone town hall meeting on Monday, June 22. Residents of Northern Virginia were invited to call in and ask Moran questions of both local and national importance, and they responded eagerly. The call took up a full hour, with more than 100 callers queued up on the line with their questions.

Moran began the call by informing listeners of the main issues facing the U.S. Congress this summer: health care reform, global warming, regulation of the financial industry, immigration reform, transportation reauthorization, the Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp and the fate of its detainees, United States policy with regard to Iraq and Afghanistan, and the nuclear ambitions of Iran and North Korea.

CALLERS' QUESTIONS mostly focused on national issues, such as immigration policy, health care reform and the economic recession.

One issue in particular that grabbed Moran's attention was a question about the detainees at the Guantanamo Bay. Moran has been

directly involved in that issue, and he took more time than he did on almost any other question to discuss it. The caller's question revolved around a Gallup poll that claimed 65 percent of Americans support keeping Guantanamo open.

"I think the poll is accurate," said Moran.

However, a poll of the callers on the line that was conducted during the teleconference indicated that 71 percent of the people on the call took the opposite stance than the majority of those on the Gallup poll, believing that Guantanamo should be closed as a detainee facility.

Moran agreed with that 71 percent. "Its reputation casts a cloud over all of our foreign policy," he said of Guantanamo Bay, naming it and Abu Ghraib as sources of propaganda for America's enemies.

"If we're battling for hearts and minds then we've got to be true to our values and principles," he said.

"We can't keep people indefinitely, that's not who we are as a nation." Moran said that the detainees in Guantanamo should be brought to the United States for trial.

Questions relating to local issues dealt with the transportation in Northern Virginia. A caller from Falls Church asked about the planned Metro stops that will take five or 10 years to complete.

"Can we do this year, or maybe next year?" asked the caller.

But Moran was concerned about the cost issues of expanding public transportation. "There's very little [funding] available at the state and local level," he said, expressing a wish for more people to use the public transportation that is available now. He called for better land use planning that would allow a more efficient use of public transportation that's already available.

MORAN also commented on the need to promote excellence in education in the name of surviving the economic recession.

"We need the highest possible quality of education so we can continue to attract the best and brightest people from across the country," he said, and ended positively by noting that the unemployment rate in Northern Virginia is half what it is in the rest of the country.

Though many callers' questions went unanswered, Moran succeeded in giving the teleconference the feel of a town hall meeting. Moran ended by saying that he hoped another teleconference would be possible in the near future.

"The questions were consistently better than the answers," he said. "But it was a good opportunity for me to hear what's on your minds."

Library Promotes Summer Reading

FROM PAGE 5

Sofia and Samuel both said they enjoy the Summer Reading Program and helping out with it.

"I also think it encourages reading which is good for you, instead of playing video games or watching T.V. all day long, you have something to work for, which is the coupon books," Samuel Caballero said. "You try to get the coupon book, so you read all of the books, and also you're reading books that are on the recommended list for Fairfax County."

Jakubooska said that although the children can read any book they want. The library has lists of recommended books for each age.

The program is open to teens as well as elementary and middle school ages, but the teens read eight more advanced books.

IN ADDITION, the library offers free educational and fun programs for children of all ages.

On Monday, June 29, Reston hosted "The Wright Stuff," put on by the Maryland Science Center. During the program, 130 school-age children "discovered the mystery of flight," with experiments and exhibitions.

Jakubooska said that the programs are popular and fill-up fast, so parents should be sure to sign up for them in advance.

If they miss a certain event, it will be offered at another branch on a different date, and parents are welcomed to sign up for it.

"All branches in Fairfax County do the same Summer Reading Program, someone can come here and register for the Summer Reading Program, and can take their log to another branch and receive their prize," Jakubooska said. "They can travel to any of the 23 branches in the Fairfax County System, and it's open to anyone."

For more information about the Summer Reading Program, "Read Around the World," or the educational programs and events, log on to the Fairfax County Public Library Web site, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/.

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Local Flavor Fuels Streaking Braves

Seven-game winning streak has sparked Herndon Braves' turnaround.

BY JASON MACKEY
THE CONNECTION

As a lifelong Herndon resident, Dan Lombardozi has attended his share of Herndon Braves' games, issuing wide-eyed stares to players of the past as if they were steps away from the Major League Baseball All-Star game.

When Lombardozi, a right-hander pitcher, graduated from Herndon High School in 2006 after posting a 6-2 record with a 1.88 ERA, he did what came most natural: He suited up for the Braves.

But Lombardozi and his family have taken their entanglement with the Braves' organization farther than most. Every summer since he was in middle school, the family has hosted at least one player from the team, which is one of eight in the Cal Ripken Sr. Collegiate Baseball League.

This year, in addition to the one Brave that the Lombardozi's continue to house, the family has welcomed Rider University right-hander Ryan Miller. In the past, the family has hosted a few notable Braves in Matt Gaski and Mark Jurich (Louisville). Gaski, a U.N.C.-Greensboro graduate, is currently with the Brooklyn Cyclones, the New York Mets' Single-A short-season affiliate.

"It was cool to be around it and then get to play for the team," Lombardozi said.

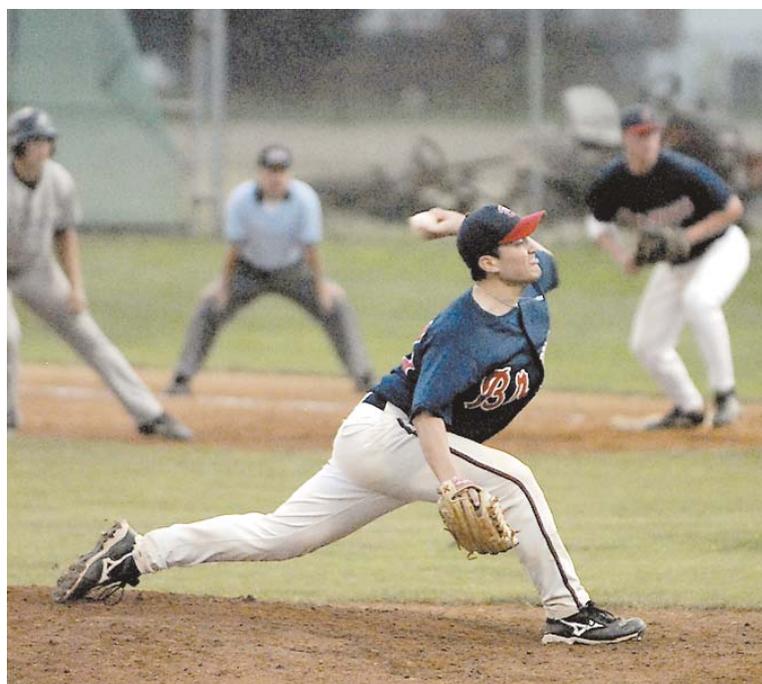
Along with 2009 Herndon graduate and first team All-Northern Region catcher Zach Leach, Lombardozi is one of two Herndon-area players to suit up for the team this summer. Furthermore, the Braves also feature a few George Mason University players in pitcher Jack Zeltner (Centreville), pitcher Darren McLean and infielder Dan Palumbo.

BECAUSE OF George Mason's historic 2009 season and the Patriots' sixth NCAA tournament appearance, Zeltner, McLean and Palumbo were late arrivals for



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

The Herndon Braves, a wooden-bat summer team in the Cal Ripken Sr. Collegiate Baseball League, feature three pitchers who played baseball in Northern Virginia this spring.



In 15 innings this summer, left-hander James Giuletti has allowed only two earned runs for the Herndon Braves. He also has a 1.20 ERA and 12 strikeouts.

Herndon, which started its season on Saturday, June 6, less than a week after Mason's season con-

cluded. Furthermore, Lombardozi's Coastal Carolina team played all the way until the same date. All told, without some of its top players, Herndon struggled early on, losing eight of its first nine games.

Now with a full complement of players, though, things have turned around as the Braves won five straight games last week, and handed the College Park Bombers a 8-3 defeat on Sunday, June 28.

"We lost a lot of tough games early, but we're rolling right now."
— P.J. Mitchell, manager, Herndon Braves

All told, the Braves (8-9) are riding a six-game winning streak that has reversed a 1-8 start.

"We're starting to go on a nice little run," said second-year manager P.J. Mitchell. "It took us a while to find ourselves. We lost a lot of tough games early, but we're rolling right now. We're ready to make that push to put ourselves back in the hunt."

Right fielder Corey Taylor (Binghamton) has been at the forefront of Herndon's resurgence. In a three-game span last week, Taylor hit a total of five home runs. On the season, he's hitting at a .373 (22-for-59) clip with 17 RBIs. And his slugging percentage of .814 is nearly double that of his closest competition.

WATCHING TAYLOR and the other Braves from the bench this season has been Galvin Morris, who's assisting Mitchell for the second straight year. In addition to coaching in the Clark C. Griffith League, another college summer program with teams in Vienna and Fairfax, he's been the skipper at South Lakes since 2000.

Morris has loved every minute his low-pressure duties, too. On game days as a manager, he's often tense, too worried about strategy, substitutions or filling out a lineup card. This summer, Morris finds himself joking around with several players, something that wasn't as easy to do as his team's manager.

"Guys come up to me and tell me that I'm really loose. Well, I tell them, you should come see me in the spring," Morris said. "Come to a spring game and see how loose I am. It's different. And the kids approach you a little bit different when you're an assistant and not a head coach."

Morris has had a few conversations with Leach and Lombardozi that have confused some other members of the team. The Northern Region? The Concorde District? Who's Al McCulloch and why's his name on our field?

But, with a full team now and roster mixed of some local guys and some not-so-local guys, a certain familiarity has developed for the Braves, a team that has had a long, rich history in college wood bat league: They're winning.

"As far as the Braves' organization and family, it's a real talent-oriented team," Lombardozi said, "and for a lot of the good players that come out of this area, it's the perfect league to come back to."

WEEK IN SPORTS

Reston Swim Rundown

In Reston Swim Team Association action over the weekend, the Northern Hills Hurricanes upended the Newbridge Dolphins, 549-512. Triple-event winners for North Hills were Courtner Clark, Nicole Flint, Lindsey Hill, Ryan Hill, Benjamin Livaudais, Catherine Swarts, Rachel Swarts and Emma Tierney. Triple-event winners for Newbridge were John Baldwin, Shannon Burke, Zac Carey, Celia Compton and James Meikle.

The Hunters Woods Blue Marlins swam past the Lake Anne Stingrays, 607-448. Triple-event winners for Hunters Woods were Allen Lee, Alex Li, Dylann Nasr, Phillip Pan, Lucy Tamberrino and Ashley Turner. Triple-event winners for Lake Anne were Ramzi Assir, Joanne Fu and Tope Oladimeji.

In the third meet of the day, the Lake Audubon Barracudas scored a 601-492 victory over the Autumnwood Piranhas. Triple-event winners for Lake Audubon were Alissa Avilov, Sabrina Groves, John Hughes, Matthew Hughes, Brooke O'Donnell, Garrison O'Donnell, Lauren Petka, Will Sickenberger, Mary Weidman and Dmitriy Zhigunov. Diya Murthy won three events for Autumnwood.

In the final meet, the Lake Newport Lightning earned a 555-511 win over the Glade Gators. Triple-event winners for Lake Newport were Amy Edgemond, Dan Ni, Casey Storch, Katie Storch and Ryan Williams. Triple-event winners for Glade were Natalie Bardach, Andrew Draganov and Ryan Tiller.

NOTABLE: In the 11-12-year-old boys' category, Alex Li of Hunters Woods set an RSTA record in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 29.20 seconds, breaking the 2004 mark. Li also set a record in the 50 butterfly with a time of 33.47 to break a record from 1989.

Also in the 11-12 boys' category, Jason Fu of Lake Anne set a record in the 50 breaststroke with a time of 39.83 to eclipse a 1997 mark. John Baldwin of Newbridge set a new mark for the 15-18 boys' division in the 50 backstroke with a time of 30.77, breaking a record that was set in 1983.



PHOTOS BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

From left, Lauren, Nora, Casey and Harris LaTeef look at old and odd bikes in the Traveling Bicycle Museum, which came to the town center for the races.



Racers prepare for the main event, a 75-minute race around Reston Town Center with a \$1,000 purse. 'It's going to be strung out like Amy Winehouse,' announcer Joe Jefferson told the crowd.

Racing through Reston Town Center

Eighth Grand Prix bike race draws hundreds, raises money for two charities.

Last year, Mitch Ferro of Evolution Cycling set up a table at the Reston Town Center Grand Prix bicycle races to raise money for the nonprofit Raisin Hope in the name of Evolution's then-president Craig "Doc" Clark, who had just suffered a serious accident.

At this year's races, which took place all-day on Sunday, June 28, Ferro, Clark and his wife Linda sold raffle tickets and took donations to support the event's main beneficiaries, Raisin Hope, which supports those who have suffered brain injuries, and Wounded Warriors, an organization that advocates for soldiers wounded in combat. The two organizations have been working together.

"I knew Raisin Hope was working with Wounded Warriors, and then I found out it was about people that lived here," Clark said, noting that many injured soldiers lived or were being treated in the area. "I thought supporting the military was absolutely the right thing."

"We decided that that was a good theme for this year's race, was 'Raisin Hope for Wounded Warriors,'" Ferro said. Evolution Cycling is one of the main sponsors for the event, along with cycling shop The Bike Lane, which has a store in the town center.

Clark said last year's event had raised



Juman Homos, 2, waves to passing racers from her father's shoulders as other spectators look on.



Cheryl Osborne of Olney, Md. buys a raffle ticket at the table for Raisin Hope and Wounded Warriors, the beneficiaries of this year's race.

about \$2,000 for Raisin Hope, and at least \$1,500 had been raised by the time last Sunday's final, lengthy event was getting underway. "People have been donating phenomenally well for this charity," Clark said, adding that many donors hadn't even taken a ticket.

With seven events, the eighth annual Grand Prix drew 376 racers from across Virginia and the surrounding states. Evolution Cycling member and race promoter Chris Conway said, "This is pretty much one of the premier crit races in the area, in the Mid-Atlantic." For laymen, that's a criterium race — a bike race run on a short course, usually on closed-off city streets such the six streets that were closed off Sunday in Reston Town Center.

— MIKE DICICCO



PHOTO BY GERRY WASHBURN/PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Lions Club Installs Officers

Officers for the Reston Lions Club were installed by District Governor Elect Tony Reyes of Woodbridge on June 17. The installation dinner was at Café Montmartre in Reston. From left are Wallace Smith, vice president, Reston; Jack Gazlay, treasurer, Oak Hill; Andy Goodman, secretary, Reston; and Michael Moseley, President, Herndon.

Nataren Receives AAUW Scholarship

The Reston-Herndon Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) presented its first local scholarship to graduating senior Sharlie Nataren, at South Lakes High School awards assembly on June 4. Nataren was selected by SLHS counselors based on the criteria of strong academic record and need established by AAUW. Incoming AAUW Co-President Stephanie Abbott presented the \$500 Scholarship.

"Sharlie will be the first in her family to attend college," said SLHS Career Counselor Marie Assir. "She moved to Virginia from Honduras four years ago after her father was killed. She worked very



Sharlie Nataren, a graduating senior at South Lakes High School, receives \$500 Scholarship from incoming AAUW Co-President Stephanie Abbott.

hard to learn English and is graduating with a 3.9 GPA." Sharlie, who hopes to attend Northern Virginia Community College in the fall, said she would like to become a computer engineer.



PHOTO FAIRFAX COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Horwatt Recognized for 25 Years of Service

Fairfax County Economic Development Authority Commission Vice Chairman Michael Horwatt, fourth from left, receives a crystal dish to commemorate his 25 years of service as a member of the commission. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors appointed the Reston attorney to the commission in 1984, and he has been reappointed five times. From left are Thomas Lawson, counsel to the FCEDA Commission; Commissioner Ronald Johnson; FCEDA President/CEO Gerald Gordon; FCEDA Commission Chairman Steven Davis; Commissioner Will Soza; and Commissioner Sudhakar Shenoy.

"Opera News;" Who New?



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

As a currently-receiving-treatment cancer patient, I am often sitting in a medical-related office/facility somewhere either waiting for an appointment with a doctor, for some kind of scan/diagnostic procedure, lab work, prescription drug refill, etc. And as most people know — and likely have experienced — these waits can vary from minutes to hours.

Being prepared to fill this time is a prudent and practical step to take. Unfortunately, other than carrying my cell phone and my appointment book, I rarely do. As a consequence, if calls are not being made — or received — or notes not already written, I am left to fend for myself, you might say, in order to pass the time. And by fending, I really mean scrounging, as in looking around at the various tables, chairs, shelves, counters, etc., for something, anything, to read.

Most often, there is ample material to be found. Being able to actually read what's available though is another thing. The condition — and timeliness — of these magazines leaves a lot to be desired and may even leave a little to the imagination. Of the many magazines scattered about: Time, Newsweek, US Weekly, People, Sports Illustrated, as a few examples, most are out of date; in fact, One New Yorker Magazine had a Sept. '07 Issue date. In addition, the general condition of many of these magazines made them almost unreadable: front and/or back covers missing or torn; inside pages also missing and/or torn; many of the pages shredded, yellowed, stained, written on and some with corners bent and curled; less than ideal circumstances for someone who came ill-prepared to wait, needing something marginally stimulating to pass the time, time which needs to be filled two to three times per week on average.

Occasionally, I do find magazines that are not so difficult to read, shall I say. And during a recent visit, after encountering the normal appointment delay and magazine mayhem, I did notice one magazine that appeared by its cover's condition, to have been barely touched by human hands so I picked it up: "Opera News" was its title. And not that I know too much about the difference between "Opera News" and Oprah news (although now I know that they both have magazines), but I had never heard — or seen about the former, though I've certainly heard about — and seen — the latter.

Aside from the content (which was totally unfamiliar to me), it was the condition and publication date of the magazine that caught my eye. The condition was hot-off-the-press perfect and its publication date was the week of the month on which I found myself sitting and waiting. Of all the magazines strewn about whose content I might have had a passing-the-time interest in reading (most of which were fairly — or unfairly — unreadable as I've previously described), the one magazine that was the most physically readable and the most current was the magazine that I was least interested in reading, content-wise.

Under my present health circumstances, I can't exactly characterize this sort of irony as a cruel trick, but I can see its use a fodder for a column. Perhaps for my next appointment, I'll be better prepared to sit and wait because I expect little will change, other than me, that is.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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